Who ordered chopper to fly at 4:20 p.m.?

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr., Michael Lim Ubac and Kristine L. Alave

WHO ORDERED THE PRESIDENTIAL helicopter that crashed on an Ifugao mountainside, killing all its eight occupants, to fly at a risky afternoon hour on Holy Tuesday?

Who cleared it to fly?

The father-and-son lawmaker tandem of Sen. Rodolfo Biazon and Muntinlupa Rep. Rufino Rozzano Biazon raised these questions, apparently not satisfied with

WHO ORDERED/A4

METRO / A19

Makati Medical Center found liable for wrong X-ray diagnosis

SATURDAY SPECIAL / H1

Michael Caine isn't retiring type even at 76

SATURDAY SPECIAL / I4

1st Pinoy symphony orchestra outside RP is born in LA

SUPER / D1

Rumored Joe Jonas' girlfriend is model Camilla Belle

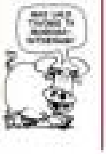
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Saturday, April 18, 2009 ★★ 12 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 139 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

Nihao, habla vous Nihongo? Four 'must-learn' languages

By Jerry E. Esplanada

NOT JUST ONE BUT four "must-learn" foreign languages.

Aside from Spanish, the Department of Education (DepEd) also plans to teach French,



NIHAO/A9

INSIDE CAMP KARINGAL



JAILED driver Glenn Palao (right) and houseboy Pacifico Aquadin are charged with obstruction of justice (like the two housemaids at right).



JAILORS The probe's focus, say QCPD Director, Supt. Elmo San Diego, PIO and Police Supt. Dr. Florencio Pornabala, lloco chief, is the bullet's trajectory.



JAILED Two housemaids, Wilfreda Bolitico (left) and Carlota Morfoe, who has been with the Failon family for the past 12 years.

Police 'overkill' probed

Failon to be subpoenaed; staff, in-laws ordered freed

By Nancy C. Carvajal and Julie M. Aurelio

THE SPECTER OF AN "OVERKILL" ARrest by police—possibly in the manner that his brother-in-law was taken into custody on Thursday night—no longer hangs over the head of broadcaster Ted Failon.

For the case of obstruction of justice filed against Failon by Quezon City police, Assistant City Prosecutor Mary Jean Pamittan has issued an amended inquest disposition scheduling the preliminary investigation on April 21 at 2 p.m.

Pamittan also ordered the issuance of a subpoena summoning Failon (Mario Teodoro Etong in real life) to the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office.

FAILON TO BE/A4



BACK OFF Ted Failon, one of the country's most prominent broadcasters, would seem to be telling the police whom he has accused of persecution. He also tells the media that the police are getting back at him for his hard-hitting commentaries.

Failon kin arrest 'brutal' but cops say relatives use tactics from 'hysterics to dramatics'

Trina due in Tacloban to open new branch of firm

By Joey A. Gabieta
In the Visayas
and Nikko Dizon
In Manila

TACLOBAN CITY—TRINIDAD "TRINA" Etong was supposed to visit this city for five days starting yesterday to lead the opening of a new branch of a networking company.

Etong, wife of ABS-CBN news anchor and former Rep. Ted Failon, was the regional franchisee of Vita Plus, a networking company of a health drink.

A source in the company said the business was doing well. They had two branches—one in this city and another in Catbalogan in Samar. Another branch was

TRINA/A8

By Tarra Quismundo, Nikko Dizon, Nancy C. Carvajal and Marlon Ramos

IS THE TED FAILON CASE turning into a police overkill? Even the Philippine National Police (PNP) believes it to be so.

The PNP Internal Affairs Service (PNP-IAS) has begun an investigation into the excessive force employed by Quezon City police in arresting ABS-CBN news anchor Ted Failon's in-laws and household staff in connection with the shooting of Failon's wife.

The investigation was yesterday ordered by PNP Director General Jesus Verzosa, Chief Supt. Nicanor Bartolome told reporters in Camp Crame.

"There were reports, in fact news stories, shown on TV trying to portray that excessive use of force was displayed. And so the PNP chief deems it necessary to have this properly settled," Bartolome said.

On Thursday night, the family of Ted Failon did not only lose Trinidad 'Trina' Etong, his wife of 25 years.

POLICE/A8

Public attorneys' Acosta defiant; DOJ chief peeved

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

THE CHIEF OF THE PUBLIC ATTORneys Office (PAO) has refused to accept a reprimand from Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez, saying her involvement in Ted Failon's case was justified.

In a reply to Gonzalez' memo to her, Persida Acosta said: "With all due respect, to the mind of the undersigned, the PAO [did] not violate any rule when it rendered provisional and lim-

PUBLIC/A8

MERALCO PROXY WAR

SC rebukes business: Don't use justices as pawns

By Vincent Cabreza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY—THE CORPORATE world has come in for a strong rebuke from the Supreme Court for involving the members of the judiciary in its "internecine fights" as rival businesses bid for control and dominance.

The reprimand was contained in a decision that the high court issued last Thursday on the proxy fight between the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) and the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco).

The high court's 2nd Division ruled that the Securities and Exchange Commission had no jurisdiction over the proxy dispute between the GSIS and Meralco and that the regulator had no power to invalidate proxy votes cast during the Meralco stockholders' meeting of May 27, 2008.

The high court upheld the July 2008 ruling of the Court of Appeals which voided the cease-and-desist order that the SEC had issued stopping Meralco from including proxy votes during its stockholders' meeting.

Thus, the high court dismissed the GSIS petition asking the tribunal to

SC REBUKES/A6

BUT NO SANCTIONS

Obama blows lid on CIA torture

WASHINGTON—PRESIDENT Barack Obama Thursday blew the lid on harsh CIA terror interrogations approved by ex-President George W. Bush, including the use of insects, simulated drowning, and sleep deprivation. (Related story on Page A15.)

But despite releasing four partially blacked-out memos detailing the tactics, Obama told operatives who carried out the interrogations would not be prosecuted, saying they acted on orders and were defending their country.

"This is a time for reflection, not retribution," Obama said.

"We have been through a dark and painful chapter in our history. But at a time of great challenges and disturbing disunity nothing will be gained by spending our time and energy laying blame for the past."

The graphic memos offered a stunning glimpse inside the covert interrogation program introduced after the Sept. 11 attacks in 2001, which critics say equated to torture, and Obama said undermined America's moral authority.

The documents were written by Bush's administration legal officials and argued that a long list of coercive techniques did not equal torture as they did not amount to the inflicting severe mental or physical pain.

Detailing methods used to question al-Qaida terror suspects, the memos reveal the use

OBAMA/A11



SUSAN BOYLE: Beyond 15-minutes of fame, she's taking the US by storm.

Internet power makes singing Scot a global idol

BLACKBURN, SCOTLAND—Since wowing judges on the TV show "Britain's Got Talent," Susan Boyle, the frumpy 47-year-old, who has never been kissed, has gained celebrity fans and millions of admirers.

More than 11 million people watched last Saturday's show, but Boyle's instant success is due as much to new media as to the power of television, with a clip of her performance posted on YouTube by the show's producers drawing nearly 12 million views. Not to mention the skillful packaging of the segment, a mini-opera of underdog triumph.

In the past few days, Boyle has appeared on TV around the world. Her fans include Hollywood couple Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher who flagged the performance

INTERNET/A11

Second FrontPage

MEGALOTTO 6/45
5 10 11 26 35 41
P20,005,812.00

Release of another hostage seen

By Orlando Dinoy and Julie Alipala
Inquirer Mindanao

DIGOS CITY—ANOTHER WORKER OF THE INTERNAtional Committee of the Red Cross still held hostage by the Abu Sayyaf group is expected to be released soon, officials said yesterday.

[illegible]

Expecting his release

[illegible]

Ransom payment ruled out

[illegible]

Whole nation will suffer

[illegible]

Plan to sneak Cha-cha into House agenda bared

[illegible]

'Seeing ghosts'

[illegible]

Villafuerte resolution

[illegible]

Free Suu Kyi, GMA urges Burma's junta



Suu Kyi

RP embassy in Syria opens

By Cynthia D. Balana

RP ambassador

BINONDO CENTRAL BANK

Ongpin seeks dismissal of P51-B suit



By Philip C. Tubeza



ONGPIN

Gov't operation

Task Force Lantian

The Daily Gospel

WB fears dip in remittances

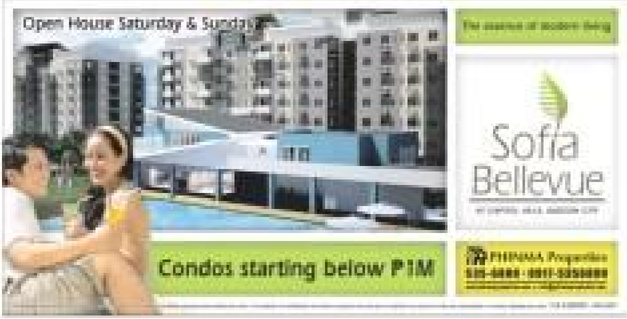
More risks

Local over foreign

AFP







SEC to lose jurisdiction over pre-need industry

Increased responsibilities



Failon to be subpoenaed; staff, in-laws ordered freed

Negative results

Paraffin testing outmoded

Happy but sad

Findings

No talk

Who ordered chopper to fly at a risky 4:20 p.m. in Baguio?

CAAP records

Stumped

'Wild speculations'

TIMELINE

SC rebukes business: Don't use justices as pawns

Not pawns or puppets

Unpardonable act



TOYS
STATIONERY
APPAREL
SHOES
BABY BASICS
BAGS & ACCESSORIES
HEALTH & BEAUTY
HOME FURNISHINGS
3 day sale
April 17, 18 & 19
SM
DEPARTMENT STORE
CUBAO • HARRISON
BICUTAN • SAN LAZARO
up to 50% off
great selections
PLUS!
Enjoy
5% REBATE
when you use your
BDO CREDIT CARD
Get a chance to
WIN 1 of 40
NEO
Laptops
with FREE 3 months connection
Get 0%
INTEREST
on 3 months installment
with a minimum P5,000 purchase

Trina 11th of 15 siblings of well-known Tacloban clan

Not rich but respected

Well-educated

Police 'overkill' probed

Like a common criminal

Questionable manner

From hysterics to dramatics

Gone berserk

Shifting attention

Just reacting

Condolences from Palace

Gonzalez orders NBI to probe trader's presence in Failon house

Public attorneys' ...

Battery of lawyers

Never said 'crazy'

Trina due in Tacloban to open new branch ...

Public viewing today

Only ABS-CBN allowed

Grieving husband

Fruit of hard work

Nihao, habla vous Nihongo? Four 'must-learn' languages

From page A1

Training Filipino teachers


LAPUS

Doubters among militants

Whimsical

Importance of language skills

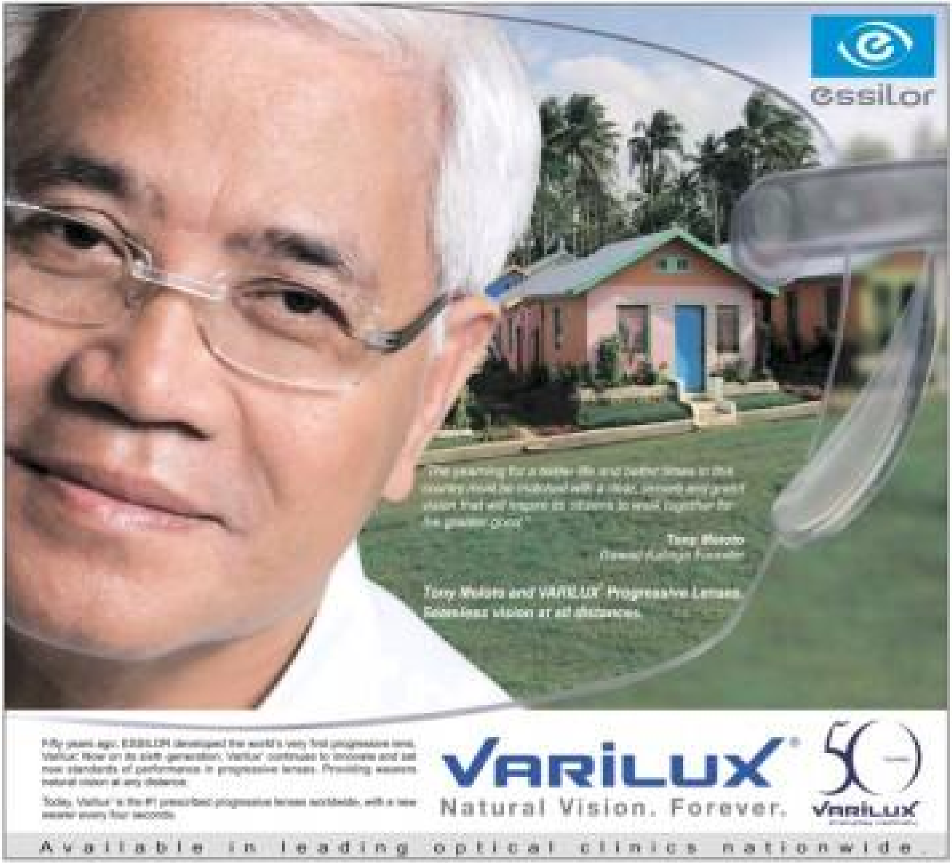
Malacañang backing

Designated schools

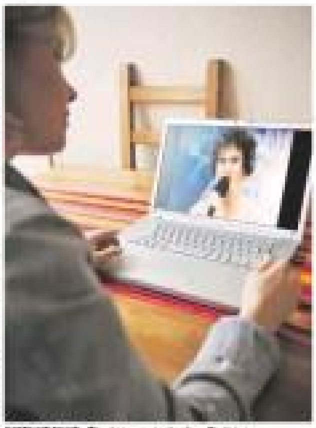
Local execs get deadline on solid waste law

Low-cost, low-tech drive to save kids launched





Internet power makes singing Scot a global idol





Idol antithesis

Taking America by storm

Cared for Mum

Single and

Surreal

Never been kissed

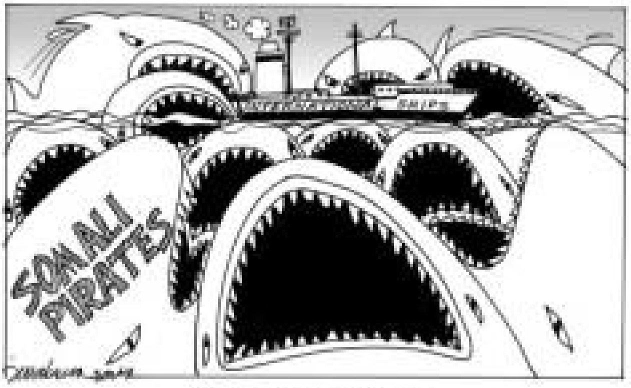
Demi Moore, a fan

INQUIRER

OPINION

Suicide

EDITORIAL



The Putin formula

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David



ERP: Time to tell if it's working

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod



Learning differences, remembering similarities

SOCIAL CLIMATE



Mahar Mangahas

The turning point

YOUNG BLOOD

What's a good teacher worth ... to you?

COMMENTARY

Butch Hernandez

Economic Fix No. 1

BUSINESS MATTERS



Alberto A. Lim

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS

THEY SAID

Duds

Exporting Filipino labor to dangerous countries

LETTERS

Luneta Hotel neither ill-gotten nor sequestered

PPSC clarifies role in 'promotions' training

Giving US another means to spy on Philippines

Prisoners stripped naked, shackled, hooded

WASHINGTON—THE JOURNEY INTO the CIA's most extreme interrogation program began in darkness.



SHACKLED A detainee is escorted in this December 2006 file photo.

No sleep for 7 1/2 days

Obama blows lid on CIA torture methods

Insect in box

Activists dismayed

Moral authority

9/11 background

Across the NATION

Gov't loses ₱450M per month in STL

Panlilio says 'jueteng' alternative not working

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—THE GOVERNMENT is losing at least P450 million a month in Pampanga alone to flaws in the operations of the numbers game Small Town Lottery (STL), according to Pampanga Gov. Eddie Panlilio.

Kill 'jueteng'

Moral question



MOVING SCENES

Firm of Villar buying Tarlac land; farmers face eviction

Warranties

Only farm remaining

East Visayas to have food depots in 143 towns, cities

14 inmates escape from Cotabato City jail

Balikatan execs report swift work progress



PHILIPPINE and US soldiers

INQUIRER Visayas

Networking to save whales, dolphins

By Vicente Labro
Tacloban City

A POD OF FROLICKING DOLphins or giant whales gently swimming in the sea may thrill many people this summer, but what would they do if they see stranded sea mammals instead?

The incidence of stranding, or when marine mammals are aground helplessly or are no longer capable of swimming back to their normal habitat, is very high in the Philippines, according to Dr. Lemnuel Aragones, a leading marine mammal scientist and associate professor in the Institute of Environmental Science and Meteorology at the University of the Philippines.

Stranding cases have also been reported in Taiwan, Thailand and Indonesia.

"Fortunately, we could still address the issue," Aragones said during a recent orientation on marine mammal conservation and stranding.

Among the sea mammals that are often stranded are pilot whales, dwarf sperm whales, pygmy killer whales, spinner dolphins, rough-toothed dolphins and Fraser's dolphins.

Balancing ecosystem

There are 26 confirmed species of whales and dolphins in the country, and these cetaceans, as well as sea cows or dugongs, play important roles in the marine ecosystem.

"They (whales and dolphins) keep the marine ecosystem in balance since some are top predators while the dugong is a megaherbivore influencing the structure and function of tropical sea grasses (and the presence of marine mammals in particular areas indicates a productive ecosystem)," Aragones says.

If proper and timely help could be given to these sea mammals in distress, they could still be saved, says Aragones, who is currently a consultant for Ocean Adventure at the Subic Bay Freeport. Their survival also depends on humans, he adds.

Marine mammals become stranded because of starvation; illness; noise pollution, such as underwater explosions from dynamite fishing; physical injury from predators, such as sharks; human activities, such as boat collisions or pollution, such as swallowing plastic and toxic garbage.

Ironically, humans have been behind the death of many stranded sea mammals.

The hunting and killing of cetaceans go on despite the laws protecting these marine mammals. Republic Act No. 8550 prohibits fishing or taking rare, threatened or endangered species and RA 9147 makes it unlawful to kill and destroy as well as inflict injury that would cripple or impair the reproductive system of wildlife species.





DR. LEMNUEL Aragones conducts a lecture on marine mammal stranding.

Stranding network

Aragones and his colleagues are developing a Philippine Marine Mammal Stranding Network (PMMSN) that could help respond to the stranding of whales, dolphins and sea cows or dugongs.

A stranding network, he says, groups people, whether from government or private organizations, or individuals who help stranded marine mammals and collect data from a stranded live sea mammal or from a beached dead animal.

Some experts from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the UP Institute of Environmental Science and Meteorology, Ocean Adventure and Wildlife in Need (Win) are also involved in the project.

The PMMSN also aims to educate people, particularly those living in coastal communities, on the importance of marine mammal conservation and to develop the capacity of personnel from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to organize and implement action plans.

Juan Albaladejo, regional director of the BFAR, says a marine center was being set up at his office in Tacloban City. It would treat stranded animals and help them recuperate.

A bigger facility will be established at the BFAR station in Guiuan, Eastern Samar.

Albaladejo says stranding networks will be set up in the six provinces of Eastern Visayas, this month, particularly in all coastal towns. Their presence will make it easy for the "first responders" or those who first discover the stranded animal to seek help from the trained team in town.

In late February, the BFAR regional office tried to rescue two Risso's dolphins that got stranded in the coastal town of San Sebastian in Samar province.

BFAR-8 REGIONAL director Juan Albaladejo, a veterinarian, prepares for the necropsy of a dead dolphin at the BFAR regional office.

Albaladejo led a team that retrieved the stranded dolphins, traveling 12 hours to reach the place. Unfortunately, both dolphins eventually died.

Results of the necropsy showed that the sea animals were victims of blast fishing, says Albaladejo, who is also a veterinarian.

In April last year, five fishermen from a village in Catbalogan, the capital town of Samar, were jailed for catching and butchering two bottlenose dolphins for food. Their case is still pending in court.

The curiosity and ignorance of some people have also contributed to the early demise of many stranded sea mammals. They usually tend to crowd a stranded mammal found on a beach, a situation that causes stress and discomfort to the sick, in pain and frightened sea mammal, Aragones points out.

He recalls an incident in which some people trying to save a stranded mammal by pouring seawater into its blow hole, or the hole on the head of a cetacean that serves as its nose, thinking wrongly that this would revive the animal.

Water or any object that would get into the blow hole would end up in the sea mammal's lungs, resulting in airway obstruction that causes difficulty of breathing and possible suffocation, he explains.

But Albaladejo says that all is not lost in the effort to save the cetaceans. He said that in late March, a fisherman in nearby Palo town freed two dolphins that got entangled in his fishing net.

"This means that some of our fishermen are now aware of the need to conserve and protect the dolphins," he says.

35 youths from Eastern Visayas to train on environmentalism

By Vicente Labro
Tacloban City

WHILE OTHER TEENS WOULD RATHER enjoy their summer vacation free of school work, 35 youths from Eastern Visayas will spend about a month this summer learning how to care for the environment.

The youths, aged 12 years old to 30 years old, are the new scholars of the Young Minds Academy (YMA), a youth leadership and development program of the Cebu City-based Ramon Aboitiz Foundation Inc. (RAFI).

Started in 2006, the YMA is a youth development and citizenship program of RAFI that aims to develop young emerging leaders to become responsible and pro-active citizens as well as accountable leaders, RAFI media coordinator Harold de Mesa said in an email.

For the first time this summer, the YMA would conduct the summer edition to train and develop young leaders from the region, he said.

Under the regular YMA program, scholars are either residents of or are working or studying in Cebu where they attend learning sessions during weekends and holidays.

The holding of the YMA summer edition, which focuses on the environment, would make the program available to more young people from outside of Cebu.

The scholars will focus on coastal waters and watersheds, clean energy and climate change, and mining and logging.

The program will include leadership training, creative thinking and basic social development modules, some day adventure and exposure to urban issues particularly in Cebu where they would have their 16 days of learning sessions that will start on April 20.

After the learning sessions, they will travel to Northern Samar where they will stay for 20 days at the Sophia's Farm in Mondragon town and at the University of Eastern Philippines in Catarman town to conduct research works, attend an environment forum, immerse with people in local communities and develop a project proposal on environment protection and conservation.

Launched last March 12, the summer edition will get 35 participants from the region who will be grouped into five on a generation basis, either as Generation I (aged 21-30 years old), Generation 2 (aged 17-20), or Generation 3 (aged 12-16).

The final screening of applicants were conducted on the first week of April in Baybay City, Tacloban City, Guiuan, Eastern Samar, Borongan City and Northern Samar.

The funding for the summer program in Eastern Visayas would come from the Foundation for the Philippine Environment, a non-profit organization whose main mandate is to support biodiversity conservation and sustainable development projects.

RAFI has also partnered with the Sacred Heart Institute for Transformative Education (SHIFT) Foundation Inc., a faith-driven, nonprofit organization based in Northern Samar.

News

Somali pirates free 17 Pinoy seamen



₱100-M prize for automated poll hacker

By Michael Lim Ubac

Hacker's test

Bottom to top

Aplus Metro



Makati Med found liable on patient's wrong X-ray

SHE MAY NOT HAVE DIED FROM THE WRONG DIAGNOSIS, BUT a woman who sued a posh Makati hospital for mixing up her X-ray result was awarded P750,000 in damages by the Makati Regional Trial Court.

In a recent eight-page decision, Judge Winlove Dumayas of Makati RTC Branch 59 said Makati Medical Center (MMC) should be held responsible for the wrong assessment caused by an X-ray that did not belong to complainant Dr. Georgina Imperial.

"This court finds that reasonable care and diligence would have guarded against the mistake of labeling the X-ray of another person with the name of Dr. Imperial. It is incumbent upon the MMC to commensurate and adequate precautions," said the decision.

"There is no dispute that defendants are liable. Defendants are engaged in the medical profession and such profession necessarily carries with it stricter measures in their dealings," it added.

Imperial filed a P1.65 million damage suit in 2006 against MMC president Dr. Gabino Mendoza; Dr. Vicente Arguelles, director; Dr. Carlos Marquez, radiology department head, and Dr. Gerardo Beltran, radiologist, when they failed to explain and apologize for the mix-up.

Imperial said the fiasco ran that she had herself checked with a cardiologist in MMC in July 2005 due to pains in her arms and neck.

The cardiologist asked her to undergo an X-ray, diagnosed her with cervical spondylosis based on the results, and gave her medication that included antibiotics and pain relievers.

Though not a serious ailment, Imperial, then a 45-year-old dentist, said the diagnosis that she had a "kalyo" (callus) on her

MAKATI A18



PAYATAS VISITOR President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo banters with one of the residents whom she visited in the "Pamatang Bayan" or free event at the Payatas dump in Quezon City on Friday. The dump has been converted into a controlled waste disposal facility equipped with a biogas plant. (See story on page A18)



'Snake Gang' busted as it was about to rob condo

MMDA unveils 'garbage scooters' to clean waterways and prevent floodings in Metro



Public hates cops more in Failon case

ON TARGET









METROBRIEFS

PCP head, 5 others relieved

2 killed in drive-by shooting

Rodriguez acting mayor upbeat

Makati Med Center found liable ...

Russia announces end of operation in Chechnya



Study finds megadroughts in Africa in past

China woman faces death penalty for Ponzi scam

Afghan quakes kill 22

The WORLD

Gunmen attack Thai 'yellow-shirt' leader

BANGKOK—THE FOUNDER OF THAILAND'S "yellow-shirt" protest movement that shut down Bangkok's airports last year was shot and wounded in an assassination attempt on Friday, just days after troops cracked down on rioting protesters from the rival, anti-government "red-shirt" group.



SONDHI bleeding from head and shoulder wounds at a hospital.

Bomber uses disguise to attack Iraq base

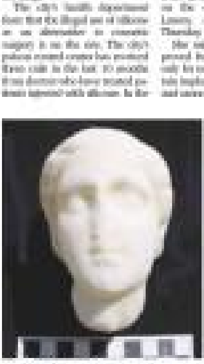


IRAQI Orthodox boys attend Good Friday prayers at the Syrian Orthodox church in Baghdad on April 17.

Obama to develop 10 high-speed rail lines

A cheap, fast, sometimes deadly way to get beautiful

4 convicted in Pirate Bay file-sharing trial



A NEWLY discovered alabaster head of Cleopatra at the Taposiris Magna temple, West of Alexandria.

Radar reveals possible sites of Cleopatra's tomb

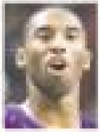
SPORTS



WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Guevarra grabs yellow jersey /A25

■ Kobe, LeBron headed for duel /A26



Arum: Manny saves his best for the Hitman



ARUM

Import-less Kings surprise Painters



NO IMPORT? NO PROBLEM.

Illam batters gun for three crowns today

RP stars out to leave PBL teams with wins

Filoil hoops: Eagles, Archers, Lions look for new heroes

Foundation, UV reach semis



Foreign bid virtually gone from RP Open golf



G'varra grabs yellow jersey

Tops Cabanatuan-to-Baguio stage

Does Donaire's world crown fit?

BARE EYE



Recah Trinidad

SPORTSWATCH

Xavier cage clinic April 20

'Bullarg' series in 4 venues

Mikee admits triggering equestrian row



Button sets pace in China GP practice

[illegible] AP

SPORTS



Big blow to RP booters

43 fouls mar Pinoys' defeat to Maldives XI

THE PHILIPPINES' BID OF ADVANCING from Group B of the AFC Challenge Cup suffered a massive blow Thursday night [illegible]

[illegible]

Cedelf P. Tupas

Kobe, LeBron headed for duel

NEW YORK—WHEN KOBE BRYANT WAS last seen in the playoffs, he was hopeless and helpless as his Los Angeles Lakers were being run over by the Boston Celtics in Game 6 of the NBA finals.

LeBron James never even got to a sixth game in his first time on the big stage, as the Cleveland Cavaliers were quickly swept away by the San Antonio Spurs.

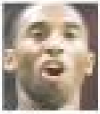
Now, with one big injury in the Eastern Conference and too many flawed teams in the West, one of the superstars has a good chance of getting the ending he wants this time.

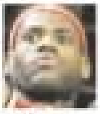
"If I'm not competing for the NBA championship, then I'm wasting my time and I'm wasting my teammates' time," James said. "To be in a position to be in the playoffs and to be in a position to fight for the NBA championship, I'm looking forward to it."

The playoffs begin this weekend, with James and the Cavaliers hosting the Detroit Pistons on Saturday in their opener.

Bryant and the Lakers get started on Sunday against the Utah Jazz.

The Cavs' road won't be easy, though.


BRYANT

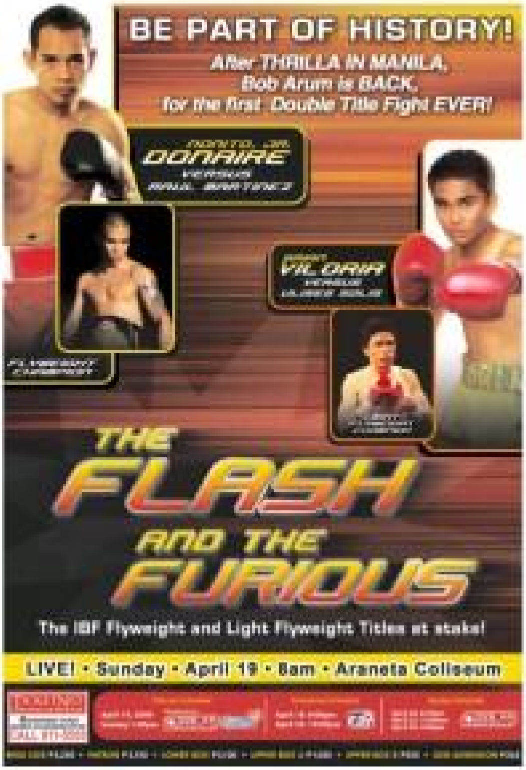

JAMES

Few teams can match the postseason experience of the Pistons, who have made six straight trips to the Eastern Conference finals. After that could be the explosive [illegible], followed by perhaps the defending champion Celtics.

"They'll be facing the kind of pressure we felt last year being the No. 1 seed," Boston coach Doc Rivers said.

That's nothing compared to Rivers' problems.

Rivers said on Thursday that Kevin Garnett won't be ready for the postseason opener and may not play at all because of his right knee injury. AP





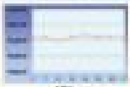
BUSINESS

$472-M BOP deficit posted in March

INDICATOR

CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE



STOCK MARKET

Stocks close higher



Reversal traced to repayment of bonds

THE PHILIPPINES INCURRED A BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS deficit of $472 million in March largely attributed to the maturity of previously issued global bonds, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

IN THIS ISSUE

Robinsons Land earmarks ₱8B for projects this year

Firm to open 3 provincial malls

URC sees profit from overseas units

SMC takes full control of packaging units

EDC sees flat profit growth in '09

Apex Mining laying off 150 workers

Take or pray

BREAKTIME



Conrado R. Banal III

[illegible]

StarTek Blazes into 2009 with New BPO facility in Makati

PLDT is telco provider for its first facility outside North America



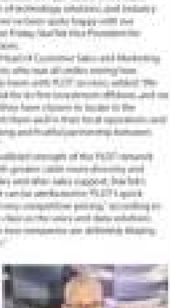
[illegible]











Volkswagen could overtake Toyota as world top automaker in Q1

Global recovery to start in 2010

European Central Bank to decide on new strategies

Asian stocks end week up

General Growth files bankruptcy

Breaktime

Stocks . . .

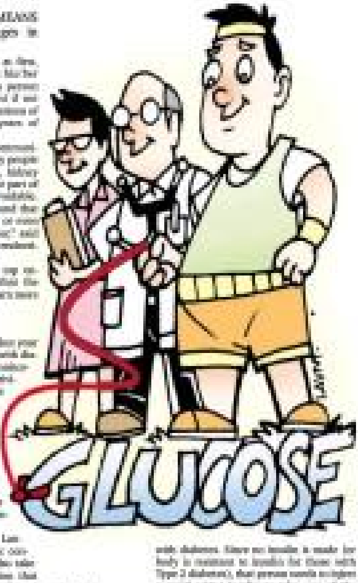
$472-M BOP deficit posted . . .

SCIENCE/HEALTH

Management key to beating diabetes

By Charles E. Buban

HAVING DIABETES MEANS making some changes in one's everyday life.



Management plan

The best way to manage diabetes is to learn more about it

Team effort

How many eggs should we eat?

MEDICAL FILES

Rafael Castillo, M.D.



Not all bad



Good source of nutrition

Significant rise in deaths

Roche and NKTI partnership brings world-class lab to the Philippines



Flambéing bananas to fuel home fires

DISCOVER



Leaving his heart

3 separate problems

Business

Gov't urged to focus on service, not merchandise

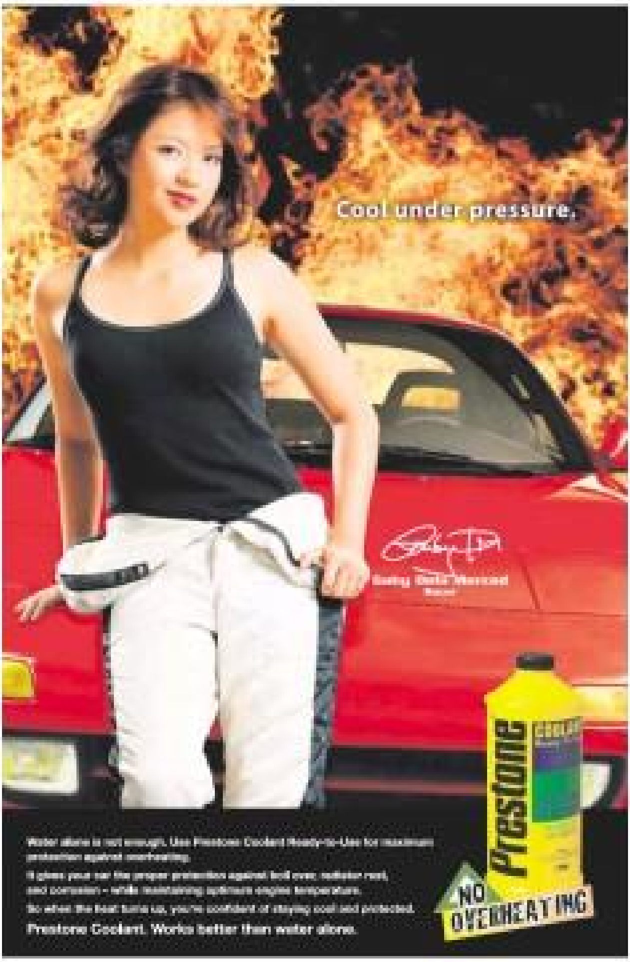
European trade group says service exports on the rise

By Abigail L. Ho

Corn output expected to drop in first half

By Riza T. Olchondra





PSALM completes sale of Bataan thermal plant

By Amy R. Remo

RP set to overhaul NSCB using World Bank grant

By Ronnel W. Domingo



PROPERTY

Editor: Cesar D. Mangawang



Villages as vacation destinations

By Tessa R. Salazar

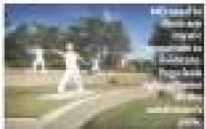
TRYING TO CUT COSTS even while enjoying your summer break? Camella's property planners offer one suggestion to its thousands of residents: Stay put, and enjoy what your subdivision offers.

Make use of the facilities

Target market



Chill out at the pool. And there's no sweat getting there.





A WINNING FEELING!

Launch of Solemare Parksuites Tower B

A SMASHING SUCCESS!

Exceeding all expectations, *Anchor Land Holdings, Inc.* reported an overwhelming reception for the second tower of its *Solemare Parksuites*, the most exciting luxury condominium development in the emerging entertainment and cultural hub at the heart of the *Aseana Business Park* in Parañaque City.



ALH Vice Chairman Mr. Steve Li delivering the opening remarks



The entire sales force of Solemare Parksuites headed by Ms. Elizabeth Ventura

The listed high-end developer said a total of 60 units out of the 450-plus units in the 18-storey Tower B were committed to buyers during the launch night alone, a smashing record made more significant in the light of the current economic downturn.

Featuring a colorful and fun-filled extravaganza night across the project site on Bradco Avenue, just off Macapagal Boulevard, *Solemare Parksuites Tower B's* market debut on March 31, 2009 took place less than three months after its twin, Tower A, was introduced.

While other condominium developers are cutting back on sales projections for the year, officials of *Anchor Land Holdings, Inc.* believe the company would enjoy another banner year, thanks to luxury projects like *Solemare Parksuites* that are able to tap into a very discriminating cash-rich market segment. "Actually, many developers at this time are holding back from launching new projects because they do not know what will happen. But *Anchor Land Holdings* is different. We see opportunity during difficult times. As the saying goes, "When the going gets tough, the tough gets going," ALH Vice Chairman Steve Li said during the Tower B launch.



Regine Tolentino wowing the crowd with a Middle Eastern inspired dance number



Buyers and guests enjoying a sumptuous dinner

Hosted by Arnel Ignacio and Regine Tolentino, the event featured a Las Vegas theme in tribute to the emerging cultural and entertainment hub where *Solemare Parksuites* is located just a stone's throw from the *Mall of Asia* and the future PAGCOR Entertainment City.



Property Specialist in business discussion with buyer



Host of the night Arnel Ignacio with guests

Buoyed by the tremendous reception for Tower B, ALH Vice President for sales and marketing Beth Ventura said they are expecting to sell all the remaining units in *Solemare Parksuites* within the year. "We decided to provide you a Las Vegas-themed program for this special gathering, because we know that all of you are enjoying the Winning Feeling for being part of Solemare Parksuites," Ms. Ventura told the guests that night.

"Let's toast to that!"



Buyer in discussion with Sales Supervisor and Property Specialist



Sales Director with clients



(From left to right) Buyer with Ms. Elizabeth Ventura, Sales Director and Property Specialist

HLURB License to Sell No. 21948

Anchor Land Holdings Inc.

The color purple

The lighter shades of purple are timeless in their popularity

Very popular

What you should know about greenwashing



Examples

GREEN ARCHITRENDS



Amado de Jesus

Buying 'green'

Avoiding greenwashing



A different condo living experience











More studios

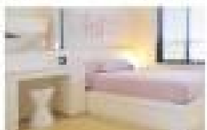
Secret

Exclusivity

The color purple

DESIGN DIMENSIONS





2bU
LIFESTYLE
Editor: Thelma Sioson San Juan
Subsection Editor: Pam Pastor

2BU SUMMER HOTTIES

Mad about Amanda



Nino Mark M. Sablan
2bU Correspondent

IF YOU'RE WONDERING why the tan and petite Amanda Lapus looks familiar, it's because you must have already seen her in magazines or on TV. Apart from making it to a couple of glossy mag covers, this 23-year-old charmer has also done commercials for brands like Globe, Vita and Fita.

An animal lover, a carefree soul and a beach person, Amanda is having a blast this summer, when she has more time for surfing, relaxing and just hanging out with friends.

What are you busy with now?

I'm a foreign exchange swaps broker.

Your favorite summer get-up?

Just flip-flops, tank top, shorts and bikini underneath so I'm ready to hit the water!

Your summer scent?

I'm a sucker for vanilla-coconut scents. What I use now is the vanilla perfume by Bayo.

How do you prepare for a beach-ready bod?

I don't hit the beach regardless of the shape I'm in! Kidding aside, I keep in shape by swimming and playing badminton, but I rarely watch what I eat.

Where do you want to go this summer?

I'd love to go to Donsol. I simply adore whale sharks! I even did research on them and printed a handout in my office stating their nicknames in other countries, eating habits, etc.

What's your summer jam?

Don't get me started! I have numerous beach tunes! Wallflowers and Mike are a must for surf trips. The "regulars" would be Jack Johnson, the Beatles, Marley, a bit of Sugar Ray and Red Hot Chili Peppers. I'm really into Kings of Leon as well.

What's your favorite summer activity?

Going to the beach and pitching a tent by the shore. A few friends and I recently did that and one night, we had a swim and disturbed the plankton in the water. Much like in the movie "The Beach," the plankton would glow and form faint luminescence around our bodies every time we'd move.

What's the best way to cool off this summer?

An ice-cold beer.

What's the coolest thing about summer?

Just forgetting about work and taking a break from everything cluttered and urban.

Are you a summer hottie? E-mail ninomark.sablan@yahoo.com.

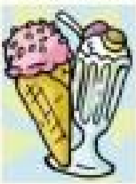


LUCKY Dog

Get a life this summer

Not necessarily on the beach

Ice cream party



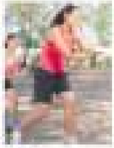
Ice skate get-together

Water balloon fun

Slumber party

'Halo-halo sale-sale'

Outdoor movie marathon



CATCH



SCORING a point



KAT VELAYO, Rosalie Miranda, Rosina Chanco, Frankie Pasigle, Honeboy David and Karen Ocbo

Ultimate Frisbee 101



DEFENSE



Ultimate field dimensions



STARTING a game

Build on defense

Winning the game

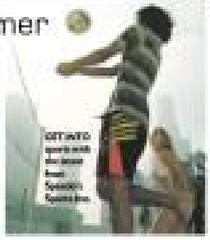
Shining this summer

Bronze up, moisturize!





Speedo launches spring/summer 2009 sports collection









These shoes sport with pride the Philippine flag







People are discovering more ways to

RELAX.

45 MILLION AMERICANS TELECOMMUTE AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK. LESS CARBON EMISSIONS, BETTER WORK-LIFE BALANCE.



All over the world, people are realizing that doing the right thing for others and for the earth also means doing the right thing for themselves. At NUVALI, we think of it as evolving the way we live.

Green open spaces, hiking trails, a bird and wildlife sanctuary, plus numerous bike routes inside NUVALI encourage an active lifestyle where people are continually in touch with the outdoors. With wi-fi available throughout the retail and commercial hub, work can also be done in the most relaxing places.

The rest of the world calls it sustainability. We call it EVOLIVING.

0917.5.ASK.NUV (275.688)
www.nuvalievoliving.com

Celebrate EVOLIVING! Join us in NUVALI, Laguna (entrance along Sta. Rosa-Tagaytay) on April 26 as we invite the public to a day of fun and interesting activities for the whole family.

NUVALI
EVOLIVING

Where People and Nature Thrive

A Project of AyalaLand

super LifeStyle
style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation
Editor: Thelma Sioson San Juan
Pam Pastor



Hot new Belle is so cool

Brazilian-American model-actress Camilla Belle is 22, stands 5'8" and is rumored to be the girlfriend of Joe Jonas, 19


CAMILLA Belle, rumored girlfriend of Joe Jonas

By Janet Susan R. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—A TALL, SLENDER Camilla Belle walked into the room, confident and charming. Camilla's trademark dark, defined eyebrows, which reminded us of Brooke Shields, make this Brazilian-American beauty look exotic.

Only 22, she has the poise, elegance and maturity of somebody older. Although Camilla is becoming popular, the product of the elite Marlborough all-girls high school in Los Angeles has been in show business since she was nine months old—as commercial model.

Born in Los Angeles to Brazilian fashion designer Cristina Routh and Jack Routh, an American owner of a construction firm, Camilla, an only child, likes to watch Brazilian soap, loves Brazilian food and considers Brazil her "favorite place on earth."

Named after a character in the Brazilian soap "Ciranda de Pedra," she is used to being called simply Belle. The 5'8" model-actress speaks not only English, but also Portuguese and Spanish. She wanted to be a classical pianist.

Into various charities, she is the spokesperson of Kids with a Cause, which helps children suffering from poverty, hunger, lack of education and neglect or abuse. She is also the spokesmodel for Help (Hope, Love, Education, Protect.), a nonprofit African children's charity agency established in Malawi to help give kids hope.

Camilla and organizers of Help have teamed up with the Lori Loerik Collection to relaunch the jewelry firm's What Love Means campaign, which donates all profits from its Peaface Collection to the children of Africa.

Recently, Camilla, as Kira Hudson, appeared in the sci-fi thriller, "Push," with Dakota Fanning, Chris Evans and Djimon Hounsou. She will play the title role in "Mary, Mother of Christ," with Al Pacino as Herod, Jonathan Rhys Meyers as Gabriel/Lucifer and Peter O'Toole as Simeon.

Her two upcoming movies are the drama "Lovely" (as Rose Livingston) and "S. Darko" (as Angela aka Sabrina).

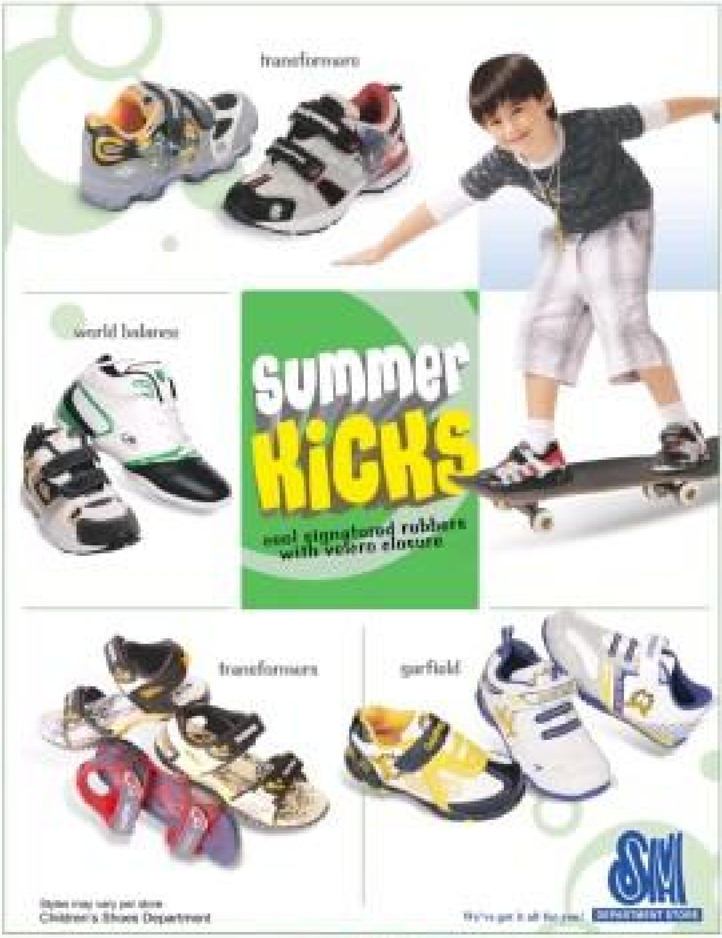
Rumored as the girlfriend of Joe Jonas of the Jonas Brothers, Camilla is also a good friend of Robert Pattinson of "Twilight" fame.

Excerpts of our interview with Camilla Belle:

Can you tell us about your early years? How you got into acting?

It really was a complete accident, I have to say. I was nine months old. I started in com

HOT NEW BELLE D4









RESTRICTED area, unrestricted access

DEFINITELY the dirtiest job in the world

THUNDER ROAD



The man behind the muck

Mike Rowe salutes the few, the proud and the filthy.



IN THIS SUPER EXCLUSIVE, "Dirty Jobs" host Mike Rowe says what it's like to be always up to the neck in filth—and finds in it a lesson in life.

5 dirty jobs in the Philippines

Because the job needs to be done, someone's gotta give

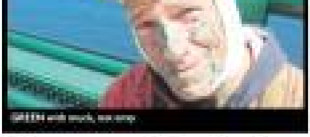
GARBAGE COLLECTOR

SEWER WORKER

COAL MINER

PUBLIC TOILET CLEANER





GREEN with muck, not envy



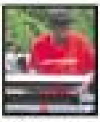
DIGGING up dirty jobs

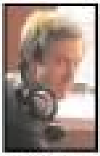
Hot new Belle is so cool

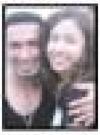
Sweats, sneaks, and soul

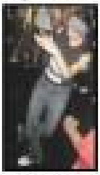
Filipino pride

By Kate Alvarez







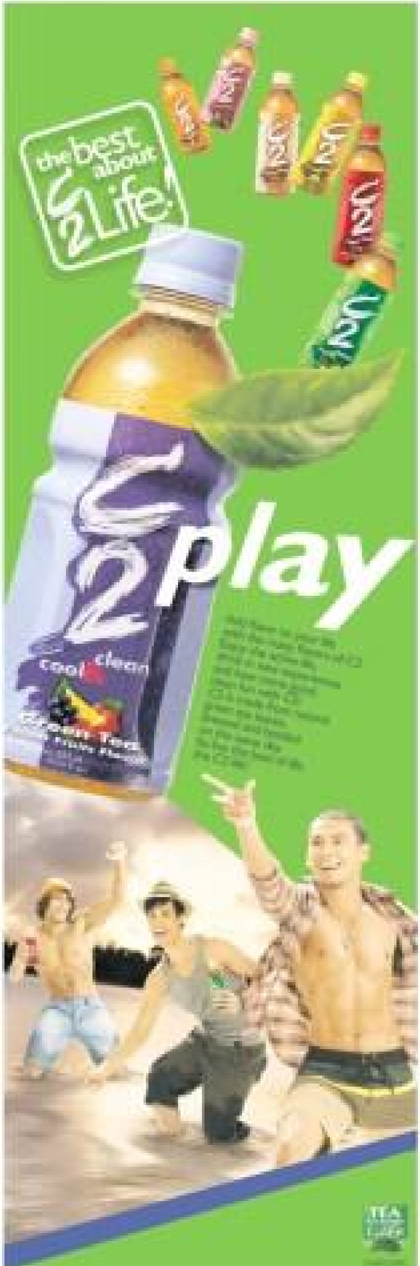




Into the circle

Rediscovering house





Sweats, sneaks, and soul





THE GROOVY [illegible] the colorful scenes from Central Park's [illegible] event last year.

Text and photos by [illegible]

IT WASN'T YOUR TYPICAL Manhattan club. The entrance fee was a mere $5, and there was no fancy dress code. Not one shiny Lexus was parked outside, and no designer-clad socialites waited to be ushered into the VIP room.

[illegible]

It's called "freestyling."

Pinoys try to get into the dancing groove in the US—and they're set to dominate the scene

[illegible]

[illegible]



[illegible]

East meets West

[illegible]

Soul train

[illegible]

Super LIFESTYLE

'DOMESTIC DISTURBIA'

Do you have the makings of a Rihanna?

By Yasha Barrera

REAL LIFE IS TRULY stranger than fiction. The day after Valentine's, the world was stunned by news that R&B singer Chris Brown abandoned his bruised and unconscious superstar girlfriend Rihanna in his car.

Truth is, bad things happen in real life. "Any woman can be abused. Contrary to popular belief, there is not really a personality type that is prone to abuse," says Dr. Mira Olivarez, psychology professor at Ateneo de Manila University, who has worked with NGOs on violence against women. "We may not be aware of it but people around you—your friends, office-mates—could be suffering from abuse.

Many girls believe—'I can change him'

Marie (not her real name), 23, a quiet girl with slight build, left her parents' house in a gated subdivision to move in with her boyfriend of three months in a small seedy apartment. A few weeks later, she showed up at work with bruises on her arms.

"My workmates kept asking what happened to me. I'd just tell them I fell off the stairs or slipped and bumped into furniture," she told us. In fact, she said her boyfriend would fight

DO YOU HAVE/E2

A weekly directory of the country's best establishments

Where to Stop Where to Go

Ultimate fun and adventure at Caliraya Re-creation Center



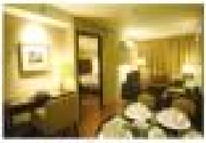
'A Taste of Summer' at Microtel Mactan



Juice up your summer at the Malayan Plaza



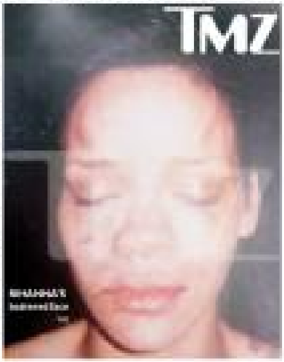
Enchanting summer escapade at A.Venue Hotel



Provincial Hotels Directory

'DOMESTIC DISTURBIA'

Do you have the makings of a Rihanna?



"Most girls' instinctive reaction to an act of violence is to forgive," Olivarez said.

Chris Brown and Rihanna have a new duet, recorded weeks after the assault.

Stranger than fiction, indeed.

24/7 SUPER RADAR

By Jacinto Cuenca-Dario and Giancarlo Espinosa

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T HEARD, GREEN IS THE NEW BLACK.

Green revolution



Floral images





Hallelujah!

Tours, Leisure & Chow

Café Jeepney holds Philippine Seafood Fiesta



Boracay Mandarin Island Hotel cool giveaways

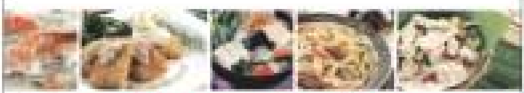
One Tagaytay Place Hotel appoints general manager

Heaven and Eggs seafood crossover revivals



Provincial Hotels Directory

It's Dragon Boat season again



Japan's Largest Food Company Celebrates 100 years!

There is a relatively small number of companies in history which can claim a 100 year history. And this year, Ajinomoto Co., Inc., the global food and amino science corporation from Japan is celebrating its 100 year anniversary of their company and of their very first product, AJI-NO-MOTO Umami Seasoning.

Today, Ajinomoto is more than just the world's largest supplier of Umami Seasoning. It is also Japan's largest food company, Japan's largest food service supplier, and a globally leading Amino Science company. In fact, the entire foundation of Ajinomoto's global business is based on Amino Science and extends beyond foods to include businesses in pharmaceuticals, animal feeds, and specialty ingredients for cosmetic companies.

Although Ajinomoto is most closely associated with seasonings, Ajinomoto's products also include coffee, cereals, soups, dressings, frozen foods, and even BCAA sports drinks. And the corporation's philosophy is to "create better lives globally by contributing to significant advances in Food and Health and by working for Life."

In the Philippines, Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation has operated for more than 50 years and today employs more than 500 Filipinos all over the country. Last year, as part of the anniversary celebration, Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation became the single largest donor to the new Mind Museum at Bonifacio Global City, as the sole sponsor of the Life Gallery. According to Mr. Andrew Ong, Business Planning Department Manager of Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation, "This sponsorship is our way of giving back to the Philippines as a socially responsible corporate citizen. And we are very proud to be contributing to a venue which will serve to educate the children of the Philippines in the area of science as our entire business is also based on amino science research."





RUNNING on ...

By [illegible]

SCHOOL'S OUT AND SUMMER is here, and that means everyone is heading to the beach to get their tan, and already praying that their diet and workout that began last January for that beach-ready body compares to everyone else's in the sandy white paradise of Boracay.

While everyone is excited to go wakeboarding and kite surfing, I'm actually excited for the annual Dragon Boat race. Last year, more than a race, it was one big party of over a thousand racers from different countries. But don't get me wrong, there was plenty of action in the water as well.

From April 30-May 2, the beachfront of Boracay Regency will be filled with over 1,500 paddlers from Australia, Germany, Singapore, Hong Kong, Macau, the United States, and the Philippines for the Third Boracay International Dragon Boat Festival.

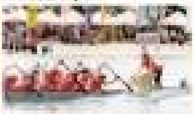
If it's anything like last year's competition, there's bound to be great fun cheering a team, sitting on the beach and cheering them on. And of course, there will be wild parties in the evening because, as I discovered last year, paddlers just love to drink, get together and have an awesome time—even if they are competing against one another.

The 2009 Dragon Boat Festival is presented by the Department of Tourism, Smart Communications and [illegible]. It is organized by the Boracay International Paddlers Association with the Philippine Dragon Boat Federation. Sponsors are [illegible].

For more information, visit www.boracaydragonboat.ph.

Highlights of the 2008 Boracay International Dragon Boat Festival

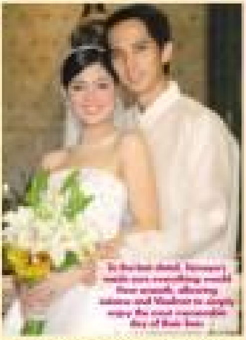
- [illegible] (Hong Kong) said that they had two competitions—one in the water and the other in [illegible] (13 shots and still standing!)
- The [illegible] Dragons (Hong Kong) and the Manila Dragons (Philippines) clashed in the water when their boats collided and crew members exchanged blows.
- The [illegible] (Hong Kong) team began to do an interpretative dance during the opening ceremonies and they were cheered on by their competitors.
- In the exciting championships in the Men's 500-m Open, the [illegible] Dragons came out victorious. Prior to the race, they marched toward their boats in gold robes and Queen's "We Are The Champions" blaring from the speakers.
- Every team hoped that the [illegible], considered a strong team, was not going to win. But it ended up winning the 200-m Mixed Open and the 500-m Men's Open.



The Search For Extraordinary Weddings

Of PhDs and I dos







AIN'T no ocean deep enough

Jollibee Yumburger: Just like the real Filipino teen



Still remember those days you'd drag Mom and Dad to a Jollibee store just to get a bite of the Yumburger? Well, those simple yet sweet days of old can still be relived over and over again as Jollibee continues to offer its trademark langhap-sarap Yumburger goodness for the sheer enjoyment of teens.

For as low as P36, teens don't have to stretch their baons just to get a quick yet satisfying burger treat.

Jollibee's Yumburger has maintained its leadership position in the burger category all these years. And while times have changed, the langhap-sarap taste of Jollibee's Yum did not.

Just like a real Pinoy teen that grows but evolves positively through time, Jollibee's Yumburger has been perfected through time but still manages to carry that distinct taste you've grown to love. The kind of taste summed up in two words, langhap-sarap.

Whether you order its other variants – the Yum with Cheese, Double Yum, Double Yum with Cheese, Yum with TLC and Double Yum with TLC- Jollibee's Yumburger surely hits the spot.

Teens love to eat the Jollibee Yumburger because just like them, you don't have to stuff the burger too much to make it yum. No pretensions, just keeping it real. Jollibee's Yumburger reminds teens how to keep it simple and real and to take time to enjoy life's simple pleasures.

Then and now, Jollibee never fails to remind teens that some good things are meant to last. With friends and family around them, true jolly moments for teens are sure to be experienced over and over again with the one and only Jollibee Yumburger- its ang langhap-sarap, Yum!

2bU LIFESTYLE



Be summer chic with the hottest bangalos in town!



Sites to see (and bookmark!)

Searching for inspiration or wanting to be intrigued? These are your virtual retreats.

By Stef Cabal

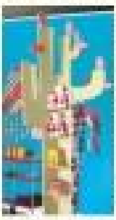


ELSIE Flannigan gets crafty

A Beautiful Mess

www.abeautifulmess.typepad.com

It isn't the title of Jason Mraz's song, but the domain is owned by Elsie Flannigan, 23, indie artist from Springfield, who hasn't had a "normal job in five years." So she channels her creativity into her colorful virtual space, posting random artsy projects. Her postings are usually accompanied by stylish photos she herself has taken. Her recently launched Red Velvet Art store, (which you can also be found online as a seasoned, whatnot, mixed with like-minded friends, who have dreams of "taking over the world and making it look so cute!" The store offers quirky knickknacks, which Flannigan posts on her site. Amid art materials, Flannigan comes up with refreshing designs, creating covetable craft and art pieces. Who would have thought that vintage spools of thread and wood could be made into toys? Felt paper into brooches and hair accessories for girls, in hot pink? Her store name is quite apt, a beautiful mess, indeed.



QUIRKY knickknacks sold at Red Velvet Art



"HELLOW"

Post Secret

http://postsecret.blogspot.com

Intrigued by dark secrets of men and women? Log on to this site, which has garnered 221,971,437 visitors, as of my last log. People anonymously confess their secrets for the whole world to see in artsy postcard-sized images. You'll be amazed by the varied confessions on relationships, love, cheating, drugs, and whatnot. (From wedding proposals to death threats!) Sometimes the postcard tales of love lost: "By the time you read this, I'm already engaged to someone else, but my heart still longs for you..." Or of unrequited love: "I hate you for loving her" (with an image of a gun pointing at the bleeding heart). Who knows? You might soon find yourself baring your soul on a postcard and mailing it to this blog.

SITES B2

Pocket garden

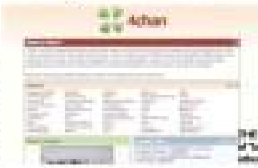
'Gardening Mama' lets you dig, fertilize, and grow plants—virtually





The 'meme' generation

Because of their anonymous postings, 4chan and other Internet image boards have produced diverse content, some funny, others disturbing



Extra 'Twilight' reading

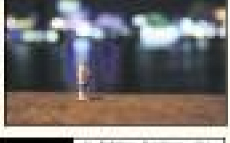


REVIEW



Sites to see (and bookmark!)





Little People

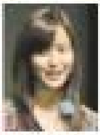
MoCo-Loco

She thought he was gay—until he professed



USTv flexes youth power for better TV programming





BIANCA Gonzalez accepting award for "Y Speak," winner of USTv Students' Choice of Best Youth Program

USTv was conceptualized 'to make the students more discerning in their TV choices,' said UST official Fr. Isidro Abaño, OP

Strict criterion

Best prepared awards





Basketball dreams start young

Nokia Philippines and Tao Corporation are training the country's international junior basketball team

By Wanggo Gallaga

IN A COUNTRY OBSESSED with basketball, you're got to start young if you want to get into the big leagues when you graduate. In fact, you've got to start even younger if you want to get into college basketball and play in the UAAP or the NCAA games.

But 15 young boys from all over the country are getting a taste of the hard court on a professional level, as they were chosen out of 200 players to be a part of the Nokia Pilipinas Youth Team, a three-year program of the Tao Corporation and Nokia Philippines. The boys are being trained to represent the Philippines in international junior competition.

With head coach Eric Altamirano, assistant coaches Joey Guanio, Vic Ycasiano and Mon Jose, and strength and conditioning coach [illegible], the boys are getting geared to play a couple of games this year. The team is backed by [illegible], president of Tao Corporation, and William Hamilton Whyte, Nokia Philippines' country general manager, and Joel Lopa, team manager and spokesperson.

Balancing school and training, the boys have to wake up really early to train and still attend classes and ensure that they have no failing marks in any subject or else they'll be booted out of their basketball boot camp. They require discipline and passion if they want a chance to compete abroad carrying their country's flag.

Already, Altamirano has expressed difficulty in getting the boys together for practice because of conflicting school schedules, and can't wait for summer when they are all his.

In fact, Nokia and the Tao Corporation are sending the boys to Australia to attend the Australian Institute of Sports in preparation for their tournaments later in the year.

Training day

"It's very challenging," says Altamirano, when asked about how difficult is it coaching kids of this age level. All of them are under 16 years old, after all. "In the professional level, it's all about motivating them," he adds.

"In terms of what they know in basketball, they know a lot already," Altamirano said. "It's about getting the best out of your players. When it comes to these kids, it entails a lot of teaching, instilling a lot of discipline. They still don't know the meaning of hard work and work ethics. We have to be patient with them."

In fact, in that particular training day he has asked each of the players to submit a short essay on excellence. Apparently, it's not just on-court technique that has been instilled into these young boys, but off-court attitude as well.

These kids are the best of the best of their age group in the country, and it will be the first time the Philippines will be sending a team to compete in international junior men's basketball. Colleges are already searching out for them and are sending letters, or asking them to enroll in their campus and are just eagerly waiting for them to graduate. Not only will they have professional training already in their resumes, but competition experience on an international level as well, making their possibility of being a varsity star in the future much more possible.

But as of the moment, they are coach Altamirano's team. "Our primary goal right now is to get them to play together, to work as a team," the coach said.

"What's great about this team is that no one is a superstar. They don't have that mentality. They are helping each other."

And when the teamwork is in place, the next challenge is developing an on-court strategy. "In terms of competition, looking at this team, it's not really a tall team," the coach said.

Most of these kids are taller than my 5'8" frame, and they haven't stopped growing yet, but they are still only tall in Philippine standards and not in the international playing field.

"We only have one 6'5" and a few 6-footers," said Altamirano. "The strength of this team is their speed and their basketball IQ. The kids of this team are very smart."

The kids already had a weekend to train in Subic courtesy of Tao Corporation and Nokia Philippines. Soon, when classes end, they'll go on training overdrive.

Last year's team bagged the 2008 South East Asian Basketball Association Junior Men's Tournament in Malaysia, and placed seventh in the Asian Youth Championship. With hard work and training, the new batch may do even better this year.



IN THIS ISSUE
- **Instructive insights from Allen,** Eastwood's careers/H3

SATURDAY Special



JONAS BROTHERS. Learning as much as they can.

Jonas Brothers take new direction in fourth album

AUSTIN, TEXAS—The Jonas Brothers are nearing completion of their fourth album, due out June 15, which the trio says will take the band in a new direction. "This album is taking steps," Nick Jonas told Billboard.com during a private teleconference with reporters. "We're trying to learn as much as we can and continuing to grow."

Kevin Jonas noted that the group would be adding more instrumentation, including horns and strings "to add to and build on the sound we have."

Nick said the songs on the new album are "very personal in song," mostly about "all things we've gone through, personal experiences we get inspiration from." But, citing the continuing influence of Elvis Costello, he added that "we've also been working on trying to use metaphor to mask a literal experience that happened to us."

Other inspirations the trio cited for the new album include the Zutons, Kings of Leon and Neil Diamond. Nick said the group has already recorded nine songs with "a few more to go."

TV series

John Fields is producing the album, which was recorded concurrently with the filming of the trio's new "J.O.N.A.S." action-adventure-comedy TV series, which debuts in May on the Disney Channel. Several songs from the album will be featured on the show as well.

The Jonases are also gearing up for their first world tour, which begins on June 20. The shows will be performed in the round on a 144-foot-wide stage that incorporates a large circular water screen. "We wanted to find a way to provide a bigger and better show for our fans," Joe Jonas explained. "The bottom half of the screen and the upper deck is essentially a flood zone kind of."

Reuters



Fifth 'Iron Chef' wins rigorous tilt

By Nestor U. Torre




BESH AND SYMON: Life lessons as food for thought.

ONE OF THE TV SHOWS WE watch pretty regularly at home is "Iron Chef America" on the Lifestyle Network (Saturdays at 6 p.m.). For the past few weeks, the culinary challenge has been taking a new tack. Eight gifted chefs competing to become the show's fifth Iron Chef for top cooking guest, joining the exclusive "club" of Masaharu Morimoto, Cat Cora, Bobby Flay and Mario Batali.

The eight contenders were really put through the wringer, pressured to come up with culinary masterpieces despite severe restrictions. It was sad and yet instructive to note that the friends 'lost' were among the first to go.

Innovations

As the field narrowed down to the final two, viewers saw that cooking ability is not just a matter of talent and creativity, but also of mastery of the basics and the latest technological innovations in the kitchen. Above all, "Iron" Chefs can be relied on to produce awesome dishes in the worst possible conditions.

The competition to become the fifth Iron Chef also showed how some chefs' personality quirks and excessively competitive bent often turned out to be counterproductive, because they ticked off both contestants and judges alike, and caused the combat... to their defeat.

These life lessons can be valuable for everybody, not just prospective Iron Chefs. As we cook up our plays and schemes in our own lives, we should remind ourselves of these lessons vicariously learned—as food for thought.

Last week, the search's finals were held, with John Besh and Michael Symon squaring off as prospective Iron Chefs. They came up with creative variations on ... dishes, some of which we made a mental note to reprise at home. That's one of the reasons why we watch "Iron Chef America" (and the original Japanese "Iron Chef" show, for that matter): To pick up ideas and tips that can make us better cooks at home.

Last round

To make the finals even more special, it was decided at the last minute that the last round should be judged—by three of the four Iron Chefs themselves! Of course, Besh and Symon were thrilled to death—and the finals' original judges were also put in their place, because their witty comments were turning viewers off (us, included!).

Both put up a good fight, but it was decided that Symon was made of sterner Iron Chef stuff, and he won the tilt. Thus, he'll be seen in the new telecasts of the show, helping maintain the culinary standards that have made the program so popular with foodies. Yum, yum!





'The Apples of My Eye'

STREET SMART



Wendy Navarro



Conducive to learning

Beat the summer heat with sorbet

LOTUS POND



R. Valencia and S. Bismark

Special preparation

Screen version of popular *manga* is a loopy, goofy mishmash



"DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION." Zany and fast-moving.

Special effects

Quest

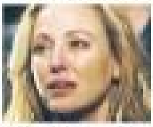
Change

Gian Magdangal launches first solo album

MONTAGE

'Haunting in Connecticut'

SpongeBob Squarepants' 10th anniversary bash



MADSEN.

The Sun Shop at Robinsons Los Baños

'Underbelly'

Stars at Starmall

Movies on TV



MAGDANGAL.

Pinky plays 'Mrs. B'

'The 11th Hour' on HBO

SATURDAY *Special*



Is Adam Lambert 'destined' to become America's eighth Idol?

By Nestor U. Torre



LAMBERT: Comes up with the most innovative and versatile vocal moves.

Unofficial survey

Ability



No more 'Hannah Montana' films for Miley Cyrus

Another season

Experiment

Michael Caine isn't the retiring type

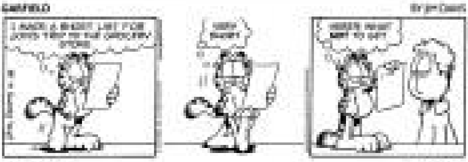


CAINE: Like old soldiers, old actors also just fade away.

Uncredited roles



GARFIELD



A. LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY



DICK TRACY



LOVESHOTS



JAMES BOND



DIVINE COMEDY



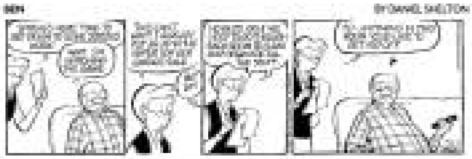
BABY BLUES



TULDOK



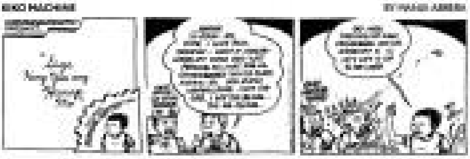
BEN



ATOMO AND WENDY

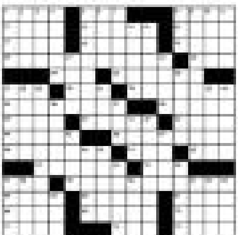


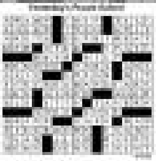
KIKO MACHINE



HOROSCOPE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE





CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

				7	8			
						2		1
		1					8	5
			2			6		7
		5		6		8		
3		8			1			
2	3					9		
4		6						
			4	5				

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

6	1	4	9	8	2	7	3	5
9	3	5	7	6	4	1	2	8
2	7	8	3	5	1	6	4	9
7	5	2	6	4	9	8	1	3
8	6	9	1	2	3	4	5	7
1	4	3	5	7	8	2	9	6
5	2	1	8	9	6	3	7	4
4	9	6	2	3	7	5	8	1
3	8	7	4	1	5	9	6	2

Award winners screened in Hong Kong

By Rito P. Asilo

Tight schedule

Long-lost lover



CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: "Waltz With Bashir," "Tokyo Sonata," "The Equation of Love and Death" and "Departures."

Instructive insights from Allen and Eastwood's careers

By Nestor U. Torre



ALLEN AND EASTWOOD: Poles apart in terms of themes, but kindred spirits in indie filmmaking.

Three-way relationship

Viewership

Michael Caine isn't the retiring type

From page H1



CAINE: His role in "Alfie" earned the veteran actor the first of his six Oscar nominations.

Touching story

Headlines

Temper

Pizza perfection



WORD OF MOUTH

Sandy Daza

Toppings

NOW SHOWING

Roño updates folkloric myth in Maricel's horror starrer

By Rito P. Asilo

"T2"

D: Chito Roño

S: Maricel Soriano, Eric Fructuoso and Mika dela Cruz

PINOY FOLKLORE IS RIFE WITH colorful stories of mythical creatures like the duwende (dwarf), kapre (cigar-smoking dark giant), manananggal (blood-feeding winged bloodsucker that can separate from its lower body), aswang (local vampire), tiyanak (demonic infant), sirena (mermaid), tikbalang (a half-horse, half-human that preys on women).

Trilogy

In "T2," Chito Roño updates the engkanto (fairy or nature god-dess) myth to wrap up his [illegible] horror trilogy, which began with 2004's "Feng Shui," followed two years later by "Sukob."

[illegible] Roño's latest supernatural thriller is Maricel Soriano, who plays Claire, a married but childless former orphan who now runs a travel agency. On the side, she [illegible] herself in volunteer work for an NGO to take her mind off her lonely life and barren marriage.

Trial separation

When her marital union to Jeremy (Derek Ramsay) hits the rocks—he wants a trial separation—Claire volunteers to accompany an orphan to his new foster parents in Samar.

But, a previously unplanned side trip to fetch another orphan, 8-year-old Angeli (Mika dela Cruz), on her way back to Manila commences a series of mysterious events. Visions of [illegible] and otherworldly presences, violent deaths, tragic accidents, creepy vehicles and fissures coming from dark nooks and crannies, etc.

Soon, the bizarre occurrences take a heavy toll on Claire and her companion-driver, Elias (Eric Fructuoso)—and everyone around them—especially when they reach the outlandishly lavish apartment owned by Angeli's new foster parents, who're nowhere in sight, at the third floor of a ramshackle [illegible] complex.

Here, they encounter the spirits of characters—and the strangest of creatures—who regard them with eldritch meaning, Bel look (Nestor Aglesprai) in [illegible] Peña, K Brosas). It quickly dawns on Claire that her marital troubles are the least of her worries!

In his lovingly creative recasting of local folklore, as well as his ingenious use of Halloween as appropriate backdrop, Roño expertly steers his horror thriller into a narrative direction that is more rooted in reality than either "Feng Shui" or "Sukob."

This time, the uncompromising director doesn't just cook up a film that makes audiences scream, squirm and shake in their seats.

Instead, he finds a middle ground that fuses today's human experiences (Claire's orphan past and unhappy marriage) and the macabre (a crawling Gollum-like creature, the unlikely union of a forest-dwelling man and his immortal paramour, a parallel dimension in a land without dreams, etc.).



DELA CRUZ AND SORIANO. Battle malevolent forces.

Shock tactics

The movie's chills are not derived from atmosphere-enabled tricks that segue into superficial shock tactics, but from a tantalizing, inherent fear that comes from viewers' inability to decipher the true intentions of the unknown forces. So, the effect of fear, when it comes, is more visceral and cerebral.

The characters' sideplots become integral to the story and enable the cast to achieve a higher degree of realism, so there aren't a lot of loose ends that need tidying up.

Our quibbles: Some uneven special-effects moments and the silly, drag-queen wig of John Lloyd Cruz (in a not-so-flattering cameo).

Another downside to Roño's "improvement": Because of his intention to tap more into human drama, the production's scary scenes occasionally feel more episodic than cohesive. So, yes, it's not as scary as its predecessors. However, the ability to scare isn't the sole criterion for a movie's effectivity: "T2" is better made and more sophisticated than either "Feng Shui" or "Sukob."



SOO. Issues intelligence and strong presence.

Innocence

Soriano is cast appropriately. The "first-dearth-wins" concept works because you don't have to suspend disbelief that the actress pretends to be a character that's not. Dela Cruz also comes off well because of her Shirley-like countenance and angelic innocence.

But, the film's best [illegible] is Carmen Soo (in a cameo), who uses her innate intelligence and strong presence to convey [illegible] perfectly.

SATURDAY Special

Filmmakers gear up for Cinemalaya 2009

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY for this year's Cinemalaya finalists is ongoing, so we caught up with some participating directors to discuss their current projects.



CASTILLO: Topaldo Ilutano's "Engkwentro."

Comfort zone



TABOG (WITH KAMOR, RIGHT): Memorable shoot.

Strong connection



"DINIG SANA KITA." Features deaf actors in key roles.

Faris finds nothing stupid in playing dumb blondes



FARIS. Plays a cosmetics counter clerk in "Observe and Report."

Strict curfew

Idea

Reuters

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GALLERIA

1 FAST and FURIOUS 4	6 KNOWING
2 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE	7 SEVENTEEN AGAIN
3 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	8 QUEEN RAQUELA
4 FRIDAY the 13TH	9 MONSTERS vs. ALIENS
5 T2	10 CRANK 2

ERMITA

1 SEVENTEEN AGAIN

2 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE	5 T2
3 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	6 MONSTERS vs. ALIENSCRANK 2
4 FAST & FURIOUS 2	7 FRIDAY the 13TH

METRO EAST

1 T2	5 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE
2 FRIDAY the 13TH	6 CRANK 2
3 FAST & FURIOUS	7 MONSTERS vs. ALIENS
4 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	8 SEVENTEEN AGAIN

NOVALICHES

1 FAST & FURIOUS 4	4 T2
2 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	
3 FRIDAY the 13TH	

PIONEER

1 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE	3 T2
2 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	4 FRIDAY the 13TH



STA. ROSA

1 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION
2 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE
3 KNOWING
4 T2

LIPA

1 THE SECRET OF MOONACRE
2 T2
3 CRANK 2
4 12 ROUNDS

DASMARIÑAS

1 T2
2 CRANK 2
3 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION
4 FRIDAY the 13TH

IMUS

1 FRIDAY the 13TH
2 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION
3 FAST & FURIOUS 4
4 T2
5 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

ANGELES

1 FAST & FURIOUS 4	3 FRIDAY the 13TH
2 T2	4 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION

STARMILLS

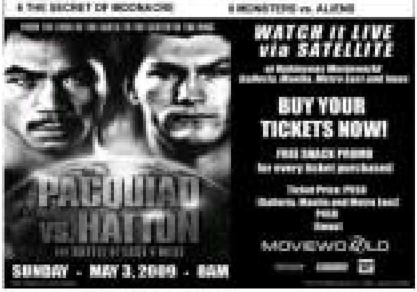
1 KNOWING	4 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION
2 T2	5 FAST & FURIOUS 4
3 FRIDAY the 13TH	6 THEY WAIT

BACOLOD

1 FRIDAY the 13TH
2 T2
3 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION
4 THE UNBORN
5 KNOWING
6 THE SECRET OF MOONACRE

ILOILO

1 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION
2 T2
3 FRIDAY the 13TH
4 THE UNBORN
5 KNOWING
6 MONSTERS vs. ALIENS



Dolores Hart stands by her contract with God

By Boby Cervantes

IN THE WILD '50s, HOLLYWOOD was partial to youth-oriented movies, because Tinseltown's biggest box-office attraction then was Elvis Presley, the hip-swiveling heart-throb from Memphis.

Elvis the Pelvis' closest competitor in the movies and music arenas was ... Pat Boone, who was his antithesis in terms of musical approach, appeal and persona. Elvis was as far-out as Pat was conservative. But, the musicals they starred in were box-office bonanzas, and the songs from their popular flicks were jukebox favorites.

Promising talents

Competing with Elvis and Pat's popularity were other promising talents like Tommy Sands, Bobby Darin, Fabian and Jim Hutton, who was the ... Tom Hanks. But, alas, not everybody had Elvis and Pat's pipes!

Dolores Hart was one the many young talents then. The pretty brunette from Chicago was discovered by producer Hal Wallis when she was barely out of her teens. Because of her wholesome, All-American charm, she was cast in youth-oriented films.

Cast opposite Presley, MGM's biggest box-office star, Hart was the perfect foil for the singer's bad-boy image. She was Presley's first screen kiss (in "King Creole"). She teamed up with Elvis again in "Loving You."

Hart seemed destined for bigger things. She also topbilled "Where The Boys Are," MGM's biggest hit in 1960, which chronicled its young protagonists' search for love and romance in America's sunny beaches. The actress represented the conservative celebrity whom young women could look up to. She shocked Tinseltown in 1963 when she decided to give up a flourishing career—to become a nun!

In 1985, Hart made a sentimental visit to the world's film capital. When asked why she gave up Hollywood, she quickly replied: "I have a contract with God."



HART (WITH PRESLEY, RIGHT), the wholesome countenance and the perfect foil for the rock 'n' roller's bad-boy image.

First Filipino symphony orchestra . . .

From page 8

makes it special is that, this is a dream come true for most of us," declared Bob.

Bob said that the orchestra now has about 40 members, ranging from promising musicians like brothers, ... Cheche ... and Felipe de Leon, to veteran Tagaopay de Leon. "Most of the first batch of members were colleagues here and from Manila," he noted. "So, we pretty much knew their musical capacity. We are continuing with the audition process because more and more Fil-Ams are showing interest in joining PASO."

Concert pianists

Asked how challenging it was to conduct an orchestra whose members vary significantly in age and experience, Bob answered: "The excitement is priceless, but it's quite challenging to be dealing with the different levels. The good thing is that, some of the more experienced members are always there to help the less experienced."

We told Bob that the timing of ... forming an orchestra in these economic times. "With the current economic situation, it might be a little more challenging on the business side," Bob admitted. "But, based on my experience and ... Good music is food for the soul—it nourishes us when we are depressed."

He shared what's in store for the audience on the historic night of May 17. "We will be performing some light classics, but most of the repertoire will be Filipino classics and pop music."

Joey Albert, Stephanie Reese and Pete Avendaño are the featured guest artists, Bob disclosed. "Stephanie and Pete will be singing some arias and kundiman. Joey will sing her popular hits, with the orchestra accompanying her, which ... When you go to a pop concert, you usually hear a minus-one accompanying the featured artist."

Love songs

He ... "With people craving to listen to good Filipino music, everyone can't wait to hear their favorite Filipino folk and love songs being played by PASO."

As for future plans for PASO, Bob revealed, "We would like to continue training the Filipino youth." He volunteered that it's gratifying to see the orchestra's younger members smiling when they recognize the pieces they're rehearsing as something that they had heard in their homes. For those who weren't exposed to Filipino classics, the rehearsals have been enriching; an opportunity to discover and appreciate their musical heritage.

In a community that's sometimes afflicted with ... (the ... of initial enthusiasm, followed by loss in interest—we expressed hope that something as wonderful as PASO will be a permanent institution.

"That's one of the reasons why we have PASO," Bob reacted with conviction. "This is a long-term plan—we'll do everything to succeed, with the continued support of Roger, Cora and Lito and the Filipino public. Our dream is to have a strong Filipino musical institution here in the US, to share the beauty of Pinoy music with our community and the mainstream audience."

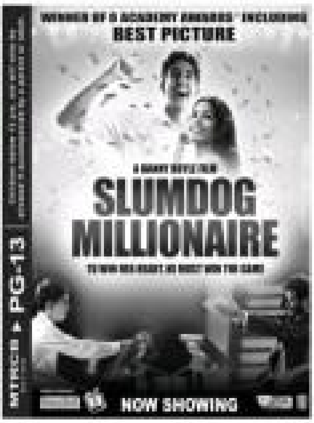
We share the dream. We hope our kababayans will show up in droves on May 17.

E-mail: ... and read his blog, "The ...," at http://blogs.inquirer.net/...



TAGAOPAY de Leon is National Artist Felipe de Leon's son.











First Filipino symphony orchestra outside RP is born in LA



ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD
Ruben V. Nepales





'70s dance band

Action

TV docus take leap into digital world

Appetite

AFP